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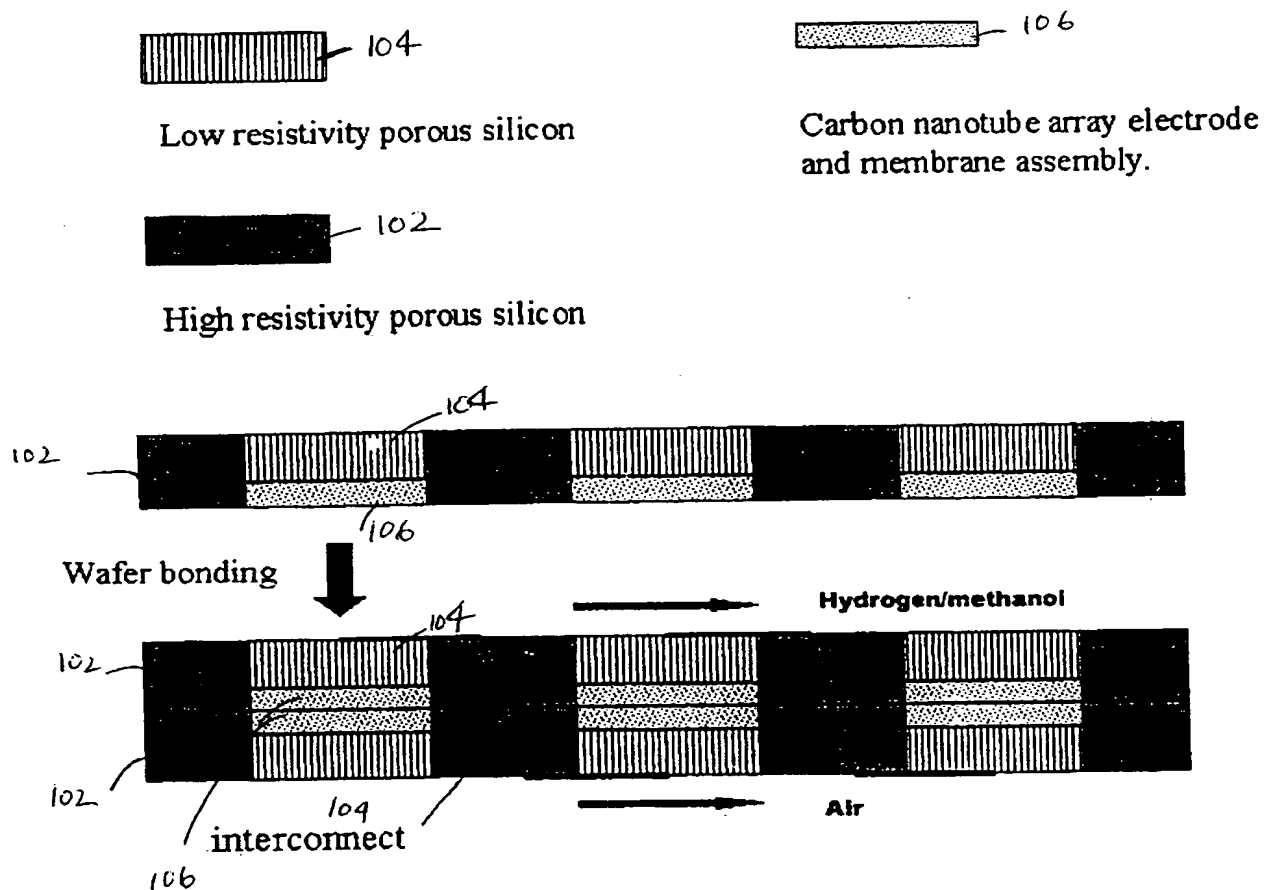
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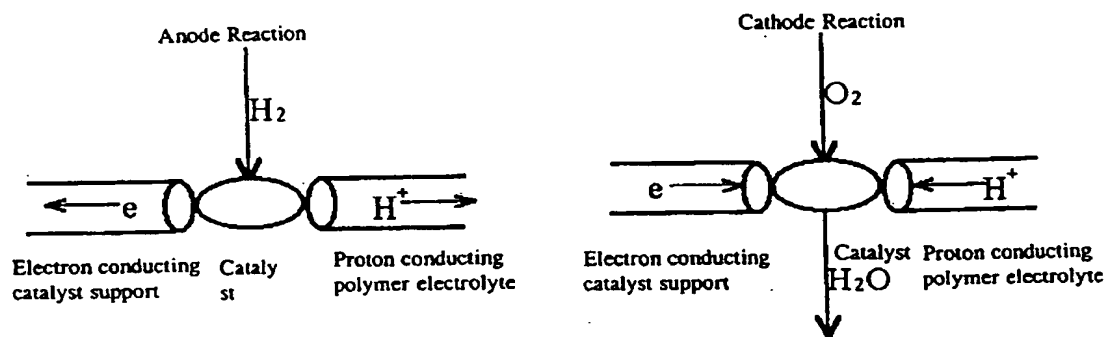
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**FIG. 1**



**FIG. 2**

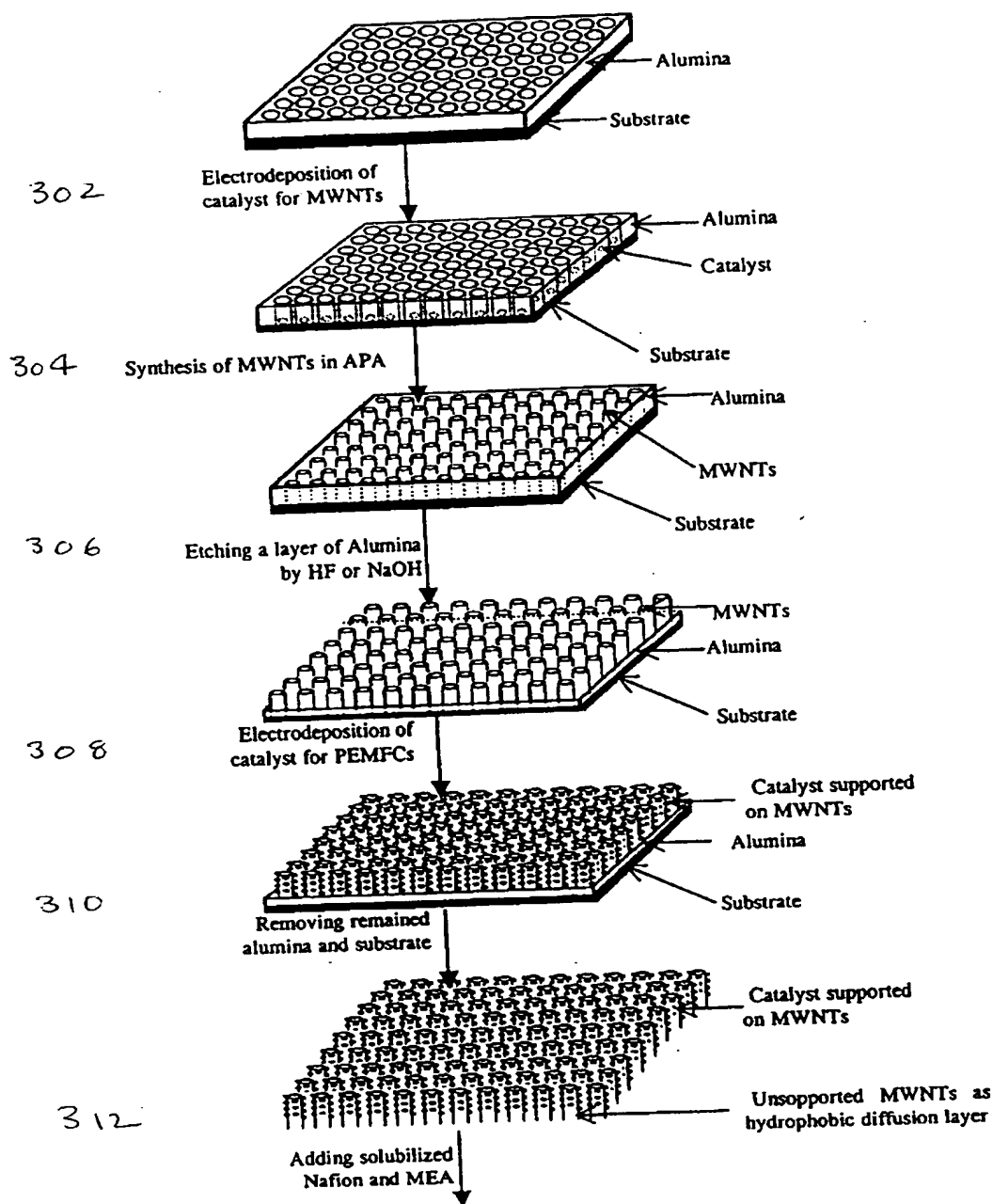
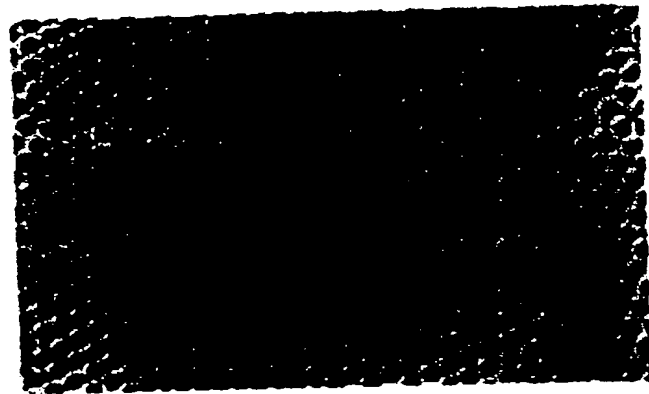
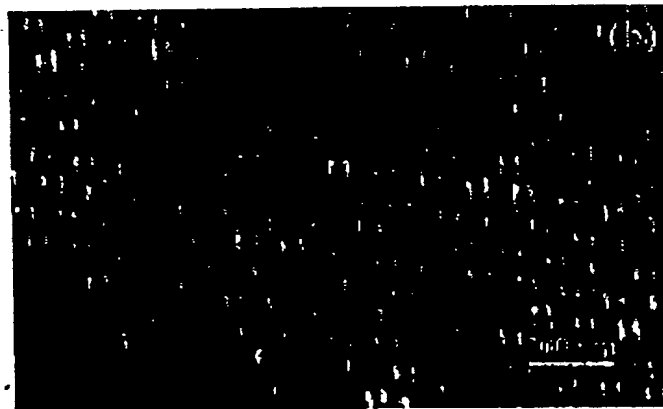


FIG. 3

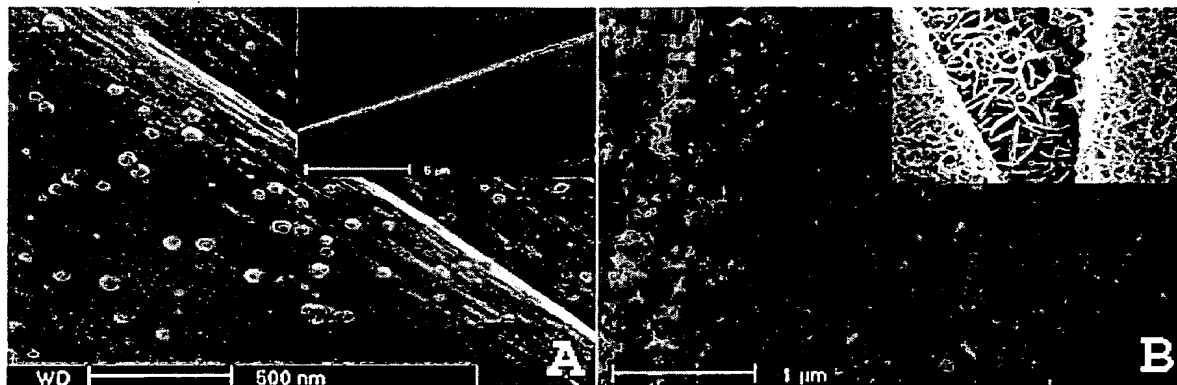


— 100 nm

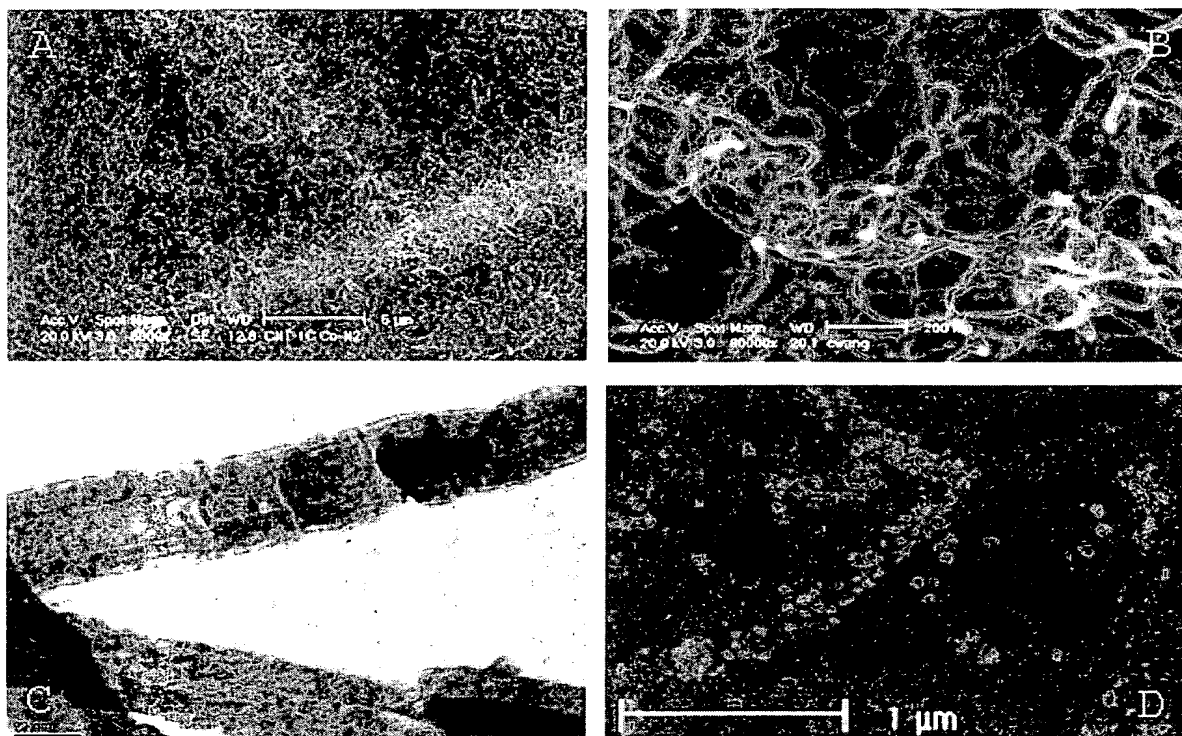
**FIG. 4**



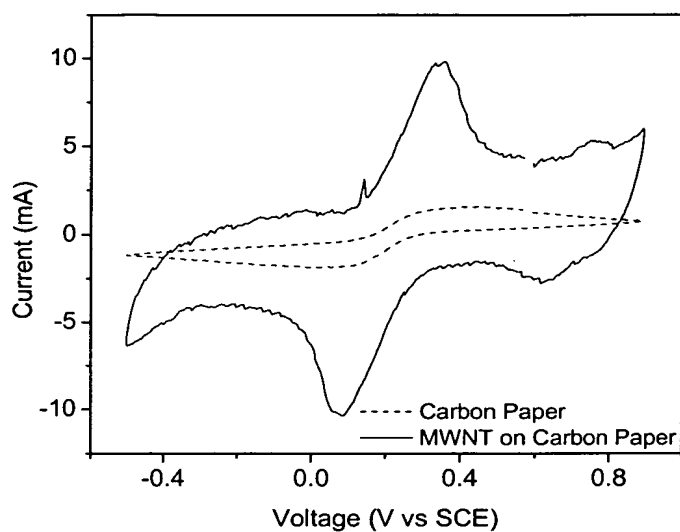
**FIG. 5**



**Fig. 6:** SEM micrographs of carbon paper after electrodeposition of Co: A) with 0.26 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> Co (inset is bare carbon paper) and B) with 4 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> Co (inset is 20 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> Co).

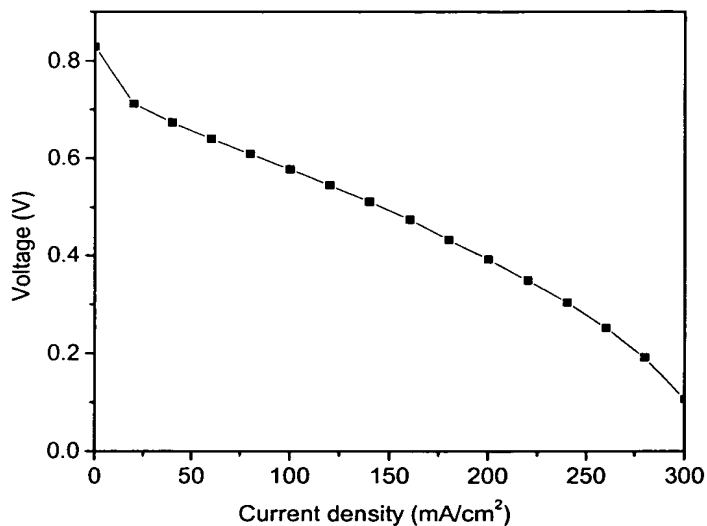


**Fig. 7:** SEM and TEM micrographs of MWNTs grown by  $0.26 \text{ mg/cm}^3$  Co loading on carbon paper; A) SEM with low magnification showing high coverage of MWNTs on carbon paper; B) SEM with higher magnification showing the diameter of the MWNTs and presence of Co catalyst particles; C) TEM of MWNTs, D) SEM of Pt particles electrodeposited on MWNTs.



**Fig. 8:** Cyclic Voltammetry in a  $\text{K}_3\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$  solution (5 mM  $\text{K}_3\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$  + 0.5 M  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) of: 1) 3.46  $\text{cm}^2$  of carbon paper alone; 2) MWNTs grown by 0.26  $\text{mg}/\text{cm}^2$  Co loading covering the same 3.46  $\text{cm}^2$  carbon paper. Scan rate: 50 mV/s.





**Fig. 9:** Polarization curve of a MEA prepared by electrodeposition of Pt on MWNTs grown by 0.26 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> Co loading. Pt loading on both electrodes: 0.2 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>. Membrane: Nafion 115. Operating conditions: cell temperature, 70°C; humidifier temperature, 80°C; pressure, 2 atm.